



Eric J. Cummings

July 1, 1974 - September 22, 2020

Eric Jay Cummings, 46, passed away September 22, 2020.

A native of Buffalo, New York, he was a son of Richard "Rick" Thomas Cummings (Kathy) of Buffalo, New York and Candice Myers Waz (Bob) of Maryville, Tennessee and a teacher and coach at Riverside High School.

Surviving, in addition to his parents, are his wife, Karen Marie Vardy Cummings of the home; three sons, Alex, Lucas and Jon Cummings of the home; three brothers, Tim Waz of Buford, South Carolina, Matt Koss of Pleasantville, New York and Greg Cummings of Smyrna, Georgia and one sister, Julie Kilburn of Palmer, Alaska.

Funeral services will be held 2:00 p.m. Monday, September 28, 2020 at Praise Cathedral Church of God, conducted by Rev. Jeff Hickman and Mr. Tim Lyda. Visitation will be held 11:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. Monday at the church prior to the service.

The family respectfully requests that memorials be made to Shriner's Hospital, 950 West Faris road, Greenville, SC 29605.

The family is at the home.

Online condolences may be made at www.thewoodmortuary.com.

Cemetery Details

Wood Memorial Park

863 Gap Creek Road
Duncan, SC 29334

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 28. 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM (ET)

Praise Cathedral
3390 Brushy Creek Road
Greer, SC 29650

Service

SEP 28. 2:00 PM (ET)

Praise Cathedral
3390 Brushy Creek Road
Greer, SC 29650

Tribute Wall

JL

“ Rick, I'm so sorry to hear about Eric! My condolences and prayers to you and your family!

Jack LaRue - September 28, 2020 at 02:28 PM

PH

“ My dear sweet Karen (and boys) .. I'm so so sorry for your loss and pain. I have no words that will take your pain away but please you're in our thoughts and prayers. Sending lots of love and hugs.

Patti Holiday - September 28, 2020 at 09:29 AM

CR

Candy, I am sincerely sorry for your loss. I pray that God places His arms around all of you and brings you comfort...Carol Rinus

Carol Rinus - September 28, 2020 at 12:10 PM

CW

Thank you.

Candice Waz - October 24, 2020 at 07:10 PM

CC

“ With deepest sympathy to the entire family of Eric Cummings. Eric's Mom, Candice, and I went to high school together 51 years ago. She is one of my dearest and most trusted friends. I have enjoyed watching her family grow and prosper throughout the years via facebook. They are such a proud and loving family! May the entire family be blessed with our Lord's tender loving care.

Cynthia M Carter - September 27, 2020 at 10:55 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Eric J. Cummings.*



September 27, 2020 at 04:07 PM



“ *Love, Matt, Donna, Tiffany, Timothy and Travis purchased the Love's Journey for the family of Eric J. Cummings.*



Love, Matt, Donna, Tiffany, Timothy and Travis - September 27, 2020 at 11:50 AM



“ *Family and Friends of The Beaufort Track Club purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Eric J. Cummings.*



Family and Friends of The Beaufort Track Club - September 26, 2020 at 06:05 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Eric J. Cummings.*



September 26, 2020 at 02:52 PM



“ *Large Basket Garden was purchased for the family of Eric J. Cummings.*



September 26, 2020 at 02:52 PM



“ *Fiery Lily and Rose was purchased for the family of Eric J. Cummings.*



September 26, 2020 at 02:48 PM



“ *Karen and family,
My heart hurts deeply for any family who has lost a loved one, but especially when it's the loss of a parent and spouse so young. I didn't know Eric well but always heard what an amazing coach he was. My first memory of Karen is when she came to Reidville to work and we had just begun to incorporate computers at school. She was the very first person to teach me how to use a mouse and navigate around the computer. Email was brand new and she guided me through each step. I remember it so vividly!
Karen was not married but would soon marry Eric and begin life together. And then the children began to come and their careers in education and sports flourished. Karen left Reidville and moved on and we lost touch, but my heart is heavy for her no less!
Prayers that God will give you a peace and comfort like no other working through the family and the many friendships you have made.*

Janet Sherbert - September 26, 2020 at 11:56 AM



“ *If one could capture the impression of a man, this race with his best friend fits Eric perfectly. In a lifetime you are fortunate to be influenced by a force greater, God given; Eric was that gift. He challenged you to be your best self. He was your friend, coach, brother, leader; the guy you knew would always stand your six and be certain you made your best effort. He genuinely devoted every ounce of his soul to improve those lives he encountered. I have no doubt the angels are lining up now, giddy with anticipation. Never enough time, Eric we miss and love you; fly brother, FLY!*



Kris Hill - September 26, 2020 at 09:27 AM



“ *Heaven's Comfort was purchased for the family of Eric J. Cummings.*



September 25, 2020 at 10:07 PM



“ *Prayers for you, the boys and your family. Bless you all. Peace of Christ be with you.
Donna Johnson.... and your church family at TRPC.*

Donna Johnson - September 25, 2020 at 08:09 PM

RO

“ Coach, you were by far the best coach I ever had. We were the first girls cross-country team you had at RHS and we knew from Day 1 that our senior year would be the year you made us a better group of runners and a better team of humans. I will always remember the day you made us do planks after running because we didn't pick up all the trash on the bus from a previous meet... 1 minute for each piece of trash left behind! Thank you for leaving me with a steadfast, but empathetic drive to do the best I can. Thank you for steady encouragement and putting your faith in us, for the support both on and off the course, and for sponsoring my first and last performance impersonating Gladys & the Pips (I think?). I will keep your lessons, but I will miss you.

Roxane - September 25, 2020 at 03:14 PM

CY

“ Eric and I coached the RHS Track and Field Program together for almost ten years. I was 12 years older than Eric, but without a doubt learned more about Coaching T&F from him than any mentor I ever had before! He was a Professional and a true Gentleman in every aspect of his life! A friend I will never forget! He will be MISSED!! My heartfelt thoughts and prayers go out to Karen, and the boys during this difficult time.

Coach Mike Yerrick

Coach Mike Yerrick - September 25, 2020 at 11:19 AM

FF

“ Heartfelt condolences to Eric's family. Eric was our son's cross country coach several years ago at RHS. He was easily the best coach our son ever had (and there were many over the years). Not only a great coach but all around nice guy. A true loss to our community. Prayers lifted for you.

Fran Franke and family

Francine M. Franke - September 25, 2020 at 09:40 AM



“ Loving Lilies and Roses Bouquet was purchased for the family of Eric J. Cummings.



September 25, 2020 at 09:29 AM

BH

“ Dedicated, competitive and fun loving!! A man loved and respected by all whom I know and he will be greatly missed.

Ben Howell - September 25, 2020 at 08:50 AM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Eric J. Cummings.



September 25, 2020 at 07:47 AM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Eric J. Cummings.*



September 24, 2020 at 10:24 PM



“ *Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Eric J. Cummings.*



September 24, 2020 at 10:13 PM



“ *Karen,
I'm so very sorry for your loss. Prayers for you and your boys.
Much Love,
Kenna Owens*

Kenna Owens - September 24, 2020 at 08:19 PM



“ Eric was the most competitive person I knew. He could turn anything into a race or competition. Once on a family cruise in 2000, Eric and I were enjoying dinner with the family and he heard they were holding a “longest ash” contest in the lounge... of course Eric wanted in and of course he won! He was amazing at everything he ever did. Amazing husband. The best father EVER to Alex, Luke and Jon, undeniably the greatest coach and mentor. The best uncle to my kids... “sup dog” and you will be missed dearly brother! I love you!!! Your little bro, Tim



Tim Waz - September 24, 2020 at 06:25 PM

JR

To the Cummings family my deepest sympathy. I am the mom of a former Springstead student who was on the phenominal track team with Eric. My son, Don Rapuzzi, was a best friend of Eric's through their high school years. Eric took Don under his wings the very first summer track practice after we moved from N.Y. He introduced my son to his friends and students and made him feel at home after an awkward transition from high school up north. Eric was Class President and Don was Class Vice President. The boys used to practice after school and stop by our house to jump in the pool as we lived close to the high school. The boys had a wonderful team and their relationships are still ongoing even today. It was such a shock when Don told me he had learned about Eric's passing. My sincere sympathy in the passing of your husband, your dad. Prayers go with the entire family.

Jeanne Rapuzzi - September 28, 2020 at 01:47 PM